non-videophone data;

a videophone unit <u>operationally</u> connected to [at least] one of said [plurality of] subscriber terminals<u>, said videophone unit being adapted to exchange said videophone data with said subscriber terminal</u>;

a camera associated with [each] said videophone unit, said camera being adapted to capture video images for transmission [via]<u>to</u> said videophone unit; and

at least one display device associated with [each]said videophone unit<u>, said display device receiving and displaying a video portion of said videophone data</u>[;

wherein said videophone unit is adapted to transmit and receive videophone signals over said transmission medium of said cable television system].

A3   3. (Amended) The videophone system of Claim [2]<u>1</u>, wherein said camera is a digital video camera.

Please cancel claims 4-8 without prejudice or disclaimer.

11. (Amended) The videophone system of Claim 1, wherein said headend is coupled to <u>a remote network</u>[a second headend] via a high-speed [long distance] network to enable <u>said</u> videophone data[signals] to be transported between <u>users in said</u>[two different cable television systems] <u>videophone system and users in said remote network</u>.

A5   14. (Amended) The videophone system of Claim 12, wherein said plurality of [videophones]<u>videophone units</u> are connected to said subscriber terminal via a local area network.

Please cancel claim 15 without prejudice or disclaimer.

16. (AMENDED)   The videophone system of Claim 1, wherein said headend is adapted to convert <u>said</u> videophone <u>data</u>[signals] from [one]<u>a first</u> [predetermined] format <u>of a transmitting videophone unit</u> to a second [predetermined] format [based on]<u>corresponding to</u> a <u>receiving videophone unit</u> [format of a videophone signal receiving unit], wherein [a]said transmitting videophone unit transmits <u>said</u> videophone <u>data</u>[signals] in a format different from[format of] said <u>receiving</u> videophone[signal receiving] unit.

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17. (AMENDED)   A cable television system adapted to provide transport of videophone data[signals], comprising:

a cable television system headend, the cable television system headend is operative to control the routing of videophone calls within the cable television system;

a plurality of hubs operatively coupled to said headend; and

a plurality of nodes, each of said plurality of nodes operatively coupled to one of said plurality of hubs and operatively coupled to a plurality of [videophones via a]subscriber terminals[terminal], at least one of said subscriber terminals [and videophone] being operatively coupled to a videophone unit[display device], wherein a packetized data stream is[videophone signals are] transported over [the]said cable television system and said packetized data stream contains said videophone data and non-videophone data.

Please cancel claim 20 without prejudice or disclaimer.   ✓

21. (AMENDED)   The cable television system of Claim 17[20], wherein [a plurality of videophones] said at least one subscriber terminal is operationally[are] connected to a plurality of videophone units[a single cable modem] via a local area network.

Please cancel claim 22 without prejudice or disclaimer.   ✓

23. (AMENDED)   The cable television system of Claim 17, wherein said headend is in communication with an external videophone system[at least one second headend] via a [long distance]high speed network, thereby enabling transport of said videophone data[signals] between [separate] said cable television system and said external videophone systems.

26. (AMENDED)   The cable television system of Claim 17, wherein said videophone unit further comprises a digital camera for capturing video images to be transmitted to said subscriber terminal.

28. (AMENDED)   The cable television system of Claim 17, wherein said subscriber terminal is [interfaced]operatively connected to [at least one]said videophone unit by [at least one]an interface, said interface being selected from[of] the group comprising: ethernet, wireless ethernet, firewire, universal serial bus, PCI and PCMCIA.

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Please cancel claims 29-36 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

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37. (NEW)   A videophone system, comprising:

a cable television system headend, the cable television system headend is operative to control the routing of videophone calls within a cable television system;

a plurality of set-top terminals connected to said headend via a transmission medium, said set-top terminals being adapted to transmit and receive a cable television signal over said transmission medium, said cable television signal including videophone data and non-videophone data, said set-top terminal being adapted to identify, select, transmit, and receive said videophone data and said non-videophone data;

a videophone unit operationally connected to one of said set-top terminals, said videophone unit being adapted to exchange said videophone data with said set-top terminal;

a camera associated with said videophone unit, said camera being adapted to capture video images for transmission to said videophone unit; and

at least one display device associated with said videophone unit.

38. (NEW)   The videophone system of Claim 37, wherein said non-videophone data includes at least one of analog video, analog audio, digital video, digital audio, MPEG formatted data, IP formatted data, control information, and software download information.

39. (NEW)   The videophone system of Claim 37, wherein said videophone unit is operationally connected to one of said set-top terminals by an interface, said interface being selected from the group comprising: Ethernet, wireless Ethernet, firewire, universal serial bus, PCI, and PCMCIA.

40. (NEW)   The videophone system of Claim 37, wherein a plurality of videophone units is connected to one of said set-top terminals.

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41. (NEW)   In a cable television system including a cable television system headend, the cable television system headend is operative to control the routing of videophone calls within the cable television system, a videophone system comprising:

a cable modem connected to said headend via a transmission medium, said cable modem being adapted to transmit and receive packetized digital data over said transmission medium, said packetized data including videophone data and non-videophone data, said cable modem being adapted to identify, select, transmit, and receive said videophone data and said non-videophone data;

a videophone unit operationally connected to said cable modem, said videophone unit being adapted to exchange said videophone data with said cable modem;

a camera associated with said videophone unit, said camera being adapted to capture video images for transmission to said videophone unit; and

at least one display device associated with said videophone unit.

42. (NEW)   The videophone system of Claim 41, wherein said non-videophone data includes at least one of digital video, digital audio, MPEG formatted data, IP formatted data, control information, and software download information.

43. (NEW)   The videophone system of Claim 41, wherein said videophone unit is operationally connected to said cable modem by an interface, said interface being selected from the group comprising: Ethernet, wireless Ethernet, firewire, universal serial bus, PCI and PCMCIA.

44. (NEW)   The videophone system of Claim 41, wherein a plurality of videophone units are connected to said cable modem.

45. (NEW)   The videophone system of Claim 44, wherein said plurality of videophone units are connected to said cable modem via a local area network.

46. (NEW)   In a cable television system including a headend, a subscriber terminal, and a first videophone unit, a method for transporting videophone data within a packetized cable television signal over a cable television system, comprising the steps of:

transmitting outgoing videophone data from said first videophone unit to said subscriber terminal,

encoding said outgoing videophone data in said subscriber terminal and combining said encoded

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outgoing videophone data with said cable television signal;

transmitting said cable television signal from said subscriber terminal to said headend;

at said headend receiving, processing and routing said cable television signal based on packet identification, wherein said outgoing videophone data is routed to a second videophone unit;

receiving in said headend incoming videophone data from said second videophone unit;

at said headend packetizing and transmitting said incoming videophone data to said subscriber terminal; and

receiving and decoding said incoming videophone data in said subscriber terminal.

47. (NEW)   The method of Claim 46, further comprising the step of:

at said subscriber terminal, transmitting at least a portion of said incoming videophone data to a display device operatively connected to said subscriber terminal for display.

48. (NEW)   The method of Claim 46, further comprising the step of:

transmitting said incoming videophone data from said subscriber terminal to said first videophone unit.

49. (NEW)   The method of Claim 48, further comprising the steps of:

transmitting from said first videophone unit at least a portion of said incoming videophone data to a display device operatively connected to said first videophone unit for display.

50. (NEW)   The method of Claim 46, wherein encoding said outgoing videophone data and decoding said incoming videophone data includes identifying an address for said first videophone unit and an address for said second videophone unit.

51. (NEW)   The method of Claim 50, wherein said addresses are internet protocol addresses.

52. (NEW)   The method of Claim 46, wherein encoding of said outgoing videophone data includes encrypting said outgoing videophone data and decoding of said incoming videophone data includes decrypting said incoming videophone data.

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53. (NEW)   The method of Claim 46, further comprising the step of:

transmitting videophone application executable software from said headend to said subscriber terminal.

54. (NEW)   The method of Claim 46, further comprising the step of:

creating in said headend a billing record corresponding to a duration of the exchange of said incoming videophone data and said outgoing videophone data between said first videophone unit and said subscriber terminal.

55. (NEW)   The method of Claim 46, wherein said encoding of said outgoing videophone data includes multiplexing said outgoing videophone data into an MPEG transport stream and said decoding of said incoming videophone data includes de-multiplexing said incoming videophone data from an MPEG transport stream.

56. (NEW)   The method of Claim 46, further comprising the step of:

prioritizing, in said headend, transmission of said outgoing videophone data from said subscriber terminal to said headend and said incoming videophone data from said headend to said subscriber terminal, wherein said prioritizing is done based on a type of videophone service and a bandwidth of said cable television signal.

57. (NEW)   The videophone system of Claim 1, wherein said cable television signal is a packetized data stream.

58. (NEW)   The videophone system of Claim 1, wherein said non-videophone data includes at least one of analog video, analog audio, digital video, digital audio, MPEG formatted data, IP formatted data, control information, and software download information.

59. (NEW)   The cable television system of Claim 17, wherein said non-videophone data includes at least one of digital video, digital audio, MPEG formatted data, IP formatted data, control information, and software download information.

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